FOR **Y**OUR **I**NFORMATION NEWSLETTER FOR BRANCH PRESIDENTS **May 2021**



LOOK INSIDE

- Special Honoree
- Summer Retreat
- FIVE Star awardees
- Factory Flaw impact in PA
- School Funding webinar
- Student Impact Mini-Grant and NCCWSL
- New place to shop

And much more!

TRANSITION

Last year, at this time, we were in the early months of coping with the COVID pandemic. So many branches demonstrated persistence and resilience, quickly adapting to virtual branch experiences and other methods to continue their work, and to keep members engaged and connected.

As we are emerging from the worst (I hope), I am sure you are realizing that some COVID-caused changes had a positive impact and favorable outcome. So instead of "returning to normal", you may be holding on to some of the "new". That happened within AAUW Pennsylvania. For example, President calls are more fun as Zoom meetings. And, the 2020 Convention webinar series was so successful, we added webinars to explore general election voting issues and minimum wage. Look for more regular Zoom programming in FY22.

Speaking of state-wide meetings, we are excited to provide more information about the 2021 Summer Retreat to be held via Zoom on

Saturday, July 24th. See page 5 for more information.

Congratulations to Easton and Lansdale for earning Five Stars in the AAUW Five Star Recognition program. They join AAUW North Hills Pittsburgh and AAUW State College to earn this level of recognition. And, I suspect there will be more. Presently, eleven branches are participating (page 6). Every star earned is to be celebrated because it demonstrates your commitment to the AAUW mission. Thank you to you, your board, and members for doing the work of AAUW across Pennsylvania.

This is the season of board transitions. If you are transitioning out of the President/Executive role in your branch, thank you for serving your branch and leading through unusual and difficult times. Please forward this FYI to your successor. My AAUW Carlisle President term is ending and I look forward to wearing only the AAUW Pennsylvania hat for FY22.

It is also membership renewal season. I hope branch members see past the COVID interruptions, national dues increase, and proposed open membership bylaw change to see the importance of AAUW's gender equity work at the federal, state, and local level, and renew their membership.

Enjoy the end of fiscal year cherished traditions. Celebrate the successes as you plan for FY22.

I look forward to seeing you on July 24th at the AAUW Pennsylvania Summer Retreat.

Ann Pehle President

AAUW National

AAUW Member Dues Increase

Since this is membership renewal season, your branch members may have questions about the AAUW dues increase. Please refer to the February FYI for information. Also refer to the March 8 email, (Subject --Tools to communicate AAUW Dues Increase) from Peggy Jennings with resources to communicate the AAUW dues increase. That email went to Branch Presidents, Membership VPs, and Finance Officers. Peggy is available to answer questions during the membership renewal season. (aauwpakeystoner@gmail.com)

AAUW national member dues for the next three fiscal years (July 1 – June 30) are below. AAUW Pennsylvania member dues remain \$10 for FY22, with no discussion yet about future years.

FY22 -- \$62 FY23 -- \$67 FY24 -- \$72

Open Membership

At the time of writing this newsletter, we do not know the outcome of the open membership bylaw change.

What I do know, is that you put a lot of effort into informing branch members and encouraging every member to vote. **THANK YOU** for your support and diligence in sharing information with your members.

The AAUW Pennsylvania project to provide information and encourage every member to vote was led by Jordan Glover. Please contact her with final questions. (aauwpadiversity@gmail.com).

Congrats 2021-22 Fellows and Grantees

AAUW just announced nearly **\$5 million** in funding to **more than 260 awardees** for AAUW's 2021-22 Fellowships and Grants. The exceptional recipients will pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls. Applicants were notified by email on April 15th and will be made public on July 2, 2021. Can't wait to see who received a fellowship in Pennsylvania!

We do know that **AAUW Indiana County** received a **\$10,000 AAUW Community Action Grant**. See page 3.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

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– AAUW Webinars																		
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Having trouble finding that webinar you missed or want to watch it again? Peruse recent offerings or browse

by topic on the <u>new archive page</u>.



AAUW Research addresses Public Policy Issues! See page 8 and learn how AAUW Pennsylvania already used it in our advocacy.

AAU

When AAUW updated the <u>www.aauw.org</u> website, the AAUW logo changed colors. The new logo and additional palette colors are available for you to use in your publications and website. Go to https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance

-tools/state-branch/ and scroll down to Download AAUW logos and Branding Materials.

If you want your branch logo updated in the new colors, contact <u>Barbara Zaborowski</u>, Convention Coordinator and technical expert. She has volunteered her technical services to help you reflect the updated AAUW color palette.

AAUW PENNSLVANIA

BOARD TRANSITIONS

We say good-bye and THANK YOU to elected officers whose term ends June 30th.

Membership VP -- Linda Tozier, North Hills Pittsburgh Finance Officer -- Mary Jo Buckwalter, Doylestown

It was my pleasure to serve with you and benefit from your expertise, wisdom, humor, and friendship.

Effective July 1st, we welcome the following new officers who were installed at the April 10th affiliate annual meeting.

Membership VP -- Randi Blauth, AAUW Easton Finance Officer -- Dr. Ann Echols, AAUW State College Secretary -- Ajla Laussegger, AAUW national member

MEMBER AWARDS

Honoring branch achievements and members who contribute to the success of their branches is a cherished tradition. 131 certificates for 28 branches were created to recognize branch achievement and AAUW Pennsylvania member awards – Outstanding Woman, Member Making a Difference, Named Gift Honoree. Honorees will be recognized at the 2021 Summer Retreat and in the 2021 Yearbook to be published in July.

SPECIAL HONOREE

AWARD

ANNUAL MEETING

In addition to 16 Board members, 24 members attended representing 14 branches, attended the Zoom annual meeting on Saturday, April 10 at 10:00am.

AAUW Indiana County receives AAUW Community Action grant

One of those AAUW grants mentioned on page 2 was awarded to AAUW Indiana County to launch Code Brave: A Coding Club for Girls. Partnering with the Indiana Free Library, they identified a community need and got busy planning this program. The grant covers the computers and program content—proving no idea is too big to make happen or too small to apply for an AAUW grant. They received great local <u>press</u> and look for an article in June Keystoner to tell the story. It is not often that AAUW Pennsylvania bestows the Special Honoree award. This year we are very pleased to name Linda Tozier as an AAUW Pennsylvania Special Honoree. The surprise presentation took place at the annual meeting. Go <u>here</u> to read the tribute, and enjoy photos. As she concludes her last elected position on the Board, we thought it only fitting to honor her work with this Special Honoree Award.



It is hard to express our appreciation to Linda for her many, many years of service on the AAUW Pennsylvania Board. Her historical

knowledge provided context to our discussions. Her passion for AAUW reminded us to remain committed. Her humor and sense of joy brightened the room.

Board meetings won't be as much fun without her. And, I will always consider her a confidant and good friend.

AAUW Pennsylvania WEBINAR

School fair funding is a familiar and important concern for AAUW members and branches in Pennsylvania. Over the many, many years of this legislative fight, AAUW members and branches advocated for the fair funding of public schools. When I joined AAUW in 2015, I remember the postcard campaigns, issues forums, etc that many branches conducted. As you are aware, the lawsuit filed in 2014 finally has a court date. We want AAUW members to be informed and prepared to continue their advocacy. Susan Spicka, Education Voters PA made us an offer we couldn't refuse.

Lawyers from the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia and Education Law Center-PA will deliver a special webinar for AAUW members and friends.

The PA School Funding Lawsuit Tuesday, May 18th at 7:00 pm via Zoom

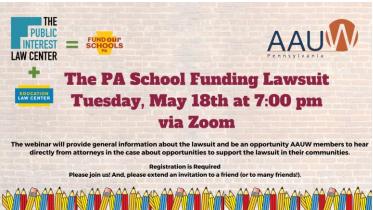
register at https://krc-pbpc-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEqcOGrrzMqHt3SVLrx3WSmTUwv0I6

On April 22, you received an email from me with publicity materials. Please promote this to your branch members. We know it is primary election day, and some members volunteer at elections. The webinar will be recorded. Below is a picture of the flyer and the Facebook event. If you need further tools, please contact Ann Pehle (aauwpapresident@gmail.com).



Share this event on your branch Facebook page.

https://www.facebook.com/events/4032051473579078



https://www.fundourschoolspa.org/ podcast – https://www.fundourschoolspa.org/news/check-out-the-trailer-for-underfunded-inside-the-fight-to-fairly-fundpublicschools-in-pa

Summer Retreat 2021

AAUW Pennsylvania sponsors an in-person meeting once a year – even years is a state convention and odd years a Summer Retreat. COVID caused us to cancel the 2020 State Convention and to move the 2021 Summer Retreat to a Zoom event.

Below is a first look of the Summer Retreat 2021 agenda. This is what we need from you.

- Promote the Summer Retreat with your members. There will be information in the June Keystoner, a webpage created, emails sent to you with content to share, and emails sent direct to members. Please talk about this every chance you get and plan to attend yourself. It would be fabulous to have 100% Branch President attendance.
- Donate a basket for the virtual fundraiser for the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. Details are on page 7. To
 participate, you must complete the form at then complete the <u>brief form</u> found **by June 30** so your basket can
 be listed in the online auction.

Let's Come Together to Support the Mission

Join us via Zoom on Saturday, July 24, 2021 9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Keynote Speakers

Chrissy Houlahan



U.S. Representative Pennsylvania's 6th Congressional District "Initiatives to Improve STEM and STEAM Education for Students in Associate Professor Morgan State University Wilmington, DE "Workplace and On-Campus Bullying"

Leah P. Hollis, Ed.D



There's more!

- We will be celebrating our Pennsylvania Star Branches and Member Award Recipients
- There will be small group sessions for Districts, Counterparts, and just Meeting-and-Greeting to share ideas with each other
- And, also included are Public Policy and National updates

PA."

Breaks are built into the agenda. Please plan to eat your lunch from 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. while enjoying the Counterparts meeting and one of the keynote addresses.

Cost to participate is \$10 and there is an opportunity to donate an additional \$5.00 or more to support the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. Registration link to be provided in future publicity. **Registration closes July 17th.**

THE AAUW 5 PROGRAM

CONGRATULATIONS to the ELEVEN Pennsylvania branches

that achieved the criteria required to be awarded stars between July 1, 2019 and February 1, 2021.

Five Stars

Criteria met in ALL Five Areas

Program Advancement Communication & External Relations Public Policy & Research Governance and Sustainability

Easton

Lansdale

North Hills Pittsburgh

State College

Four Stars

Bethlehem

Program Advancement Communications & External Relations Public Policy & Research

Indiana County

Program Advancement Communications & External Relations Public Policy & Research

The Five Star National Recognition Program rewards affiliates (states, branches, other organizations) for aligning their work with the AAUW strategic plan and other initiatives that foster the organization's mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls.. Learn more about the program <u>here</u>.

Three Stars

Carlisle

Program Advancement Communication & External Relations

West Chester/Chester County

Advancement Communications & External Relations Governance & Sustainability

Two Stars

One Star

Fox Chapel Communication & External Relations

Harrisburg

Communication & External Relations

Pittsburgh

Advancement



AAUW Funds Deb Roney, AAUW Funds Chair

be found.

AAUW and AAUW-PA Logo Merchandise Available

AAUW-PA has collaborated with Lands' End to offer a storefront linked to the AAUW-PA website. You can shop many of Lands' End regular products for men, women, home, office, and more and get the logo added for a small fee. Then they will ship it to you.



AAUW-PA will not make any money from your purchases, nor will any money go to AAUW Funds. This is purely a service to our members.

In addition, Lands' End is giving each of us a discount on our first order—adding the logo for free and providing free shipping. To get this special deal, use this code: MTFLFS2.

Here's the link: https://business.landsend.com/store/aauw/

Enjoy, and please share this information with your branch members.

If you have any questions related to AAUW Funds, please contact Deb Roney, <u>aauwpaaauwfunds@gmail.com</u>.

AAUW Virtual Basket Fundraiser for Greatest Needs Fund

Because our summer retreat will be done virtually this year, we have switched to a virtual fundraiser for the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund as well. We invite your branch to contribute a virtual basket; participation is entirely optional. To participate, find or design a basket of goodies worth \$50-\$100 that the branch can ship to the winner, share electronically, or have shipped by the commercial seller(s).

If your branch wants to take part in donating a basket, decide what you will offer and then complete the brief form **by June 30** so your basket can be listed:

<u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AAUWPASilentAuction202</u> <u>1</u> You will be asked for the basket contents, the value of the basket, a photo of the contents, and, if you are donating a commercial basket, a link to the website where the basket can

Themes are fun—maybe something for readers or someone who likes cheese or another food product. Consider gift certificates or items unique to the area where your branch is located but that anyone around the state could enjoy. Perhaps you have a favorite woman-owned business whose work you want to share this way.

Bidding on baskets will be open one week before the retreat through an online, silent-auction link located on the AAUW-PA website with the other summer retreat information. Starting bids will be \$30, with raises in increments of at least \$2; bids must be in whole dollars only. Encourage your members who aren't attending the retreat to take part, too. You do not need to be present to win.

The winner of each basket, the person with the highest bid, will be announced on Saturday afternoon, July 24, during the closing of the retreat. Winners must pay through PayPal (no account needed) within 48 hours of the close of the summer retreat, or the basket will be awarded to the next highest bidder. The branch will then be notified of the winner so they can get the basket to them.

Thank you in advance for your participation. We are eager to see how much fun we can have while raising money for the Greatest Needs Fund.

Public Policy UPDATE

Barbara Price and Jacqui Rogers Public Policy Chairs

May 18 Primary

The May 18 primary will include voting for the following offices. "Off" year elections are no less important than national elections because all of the judge, county and municipal offices have a greater impact on your daily life than national offices. To find out who will be on your ballot go to https://www.vote411.org/ for ballot specific information.

Statewide

County

- Pa. Justice of the Supreme Court
 One Opening, Four Candidates
 Pa. Judge of the Superior Court
 One opening, Three Candidates
 on Democratic Ballot One on the
 Republican ballot
 Pa. Judge of the Commonwealth
 Court:
 Two openings, Six Candidates
 Four ballot questions,
 Three are constitutional
 amendments.
- You may be voting for: Judge of the Court of Common Pleas District Attorney Sheriff Prothonotary, Recorder of Deeds, Controller

Municipal

You may be voting for: School Board Directors Municipal Mayor Municipal Council Township Supervisors Township Auditor\Township Constable Township Tax Collector.

ADVOCACY DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE

On April 15, 2021, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 217-210 to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R. 7) with bipartisan support. While Brian K. Fitzpatrick (PA 1st) was the only Republican who crossed party lines to vote YEA, AAUW advocacy around the country is a huge reason we are now one step closer to this bill becoming law. Now the bill moves to the U.S. Senate. We can't be silent and must encourage our Senators Casey and Toomey to cast yay votes. Click <u>here</u> for AAUW's summary and position resources. And, respond to Two-Minute Activist alerts. If you aren't signed up for Action Alerts, click <u>here</u> to become a Two-Minute Activist.



AAUW Research – JUST RELEASED

Why Women Leave Lucrative Jobs

Women are more likely to quit jobs in manufacturing than women in other industries, reflecting a history of sexual

harassment, unequal pay and opportunity denied. <u>Factory Flaw: The</u> <u>Attrition and Retention of Women in</u> <u>Manufacturing</u>, this new AAUW study made possible by the support of the



Arconic Foundation, explores the challenges women face in male-dominated industries. It outlines how employers can build a more competitive workforce by addressing these longstanding issues and creating more pathways for women in the manufacturing fields. One reason women leave manufacturing are parental policies and no paid family leave. This research lends credibility to the agreement for passing The Family Care Act in Pennsylvania. Barbara Price shared the research with the coalition, who immediately organized a press conference in the Pittsburgh area to highlight a manufacture who supports the bill. Another example of AAUW impacting policy.

Higher Ed, Lower Pay

The Power Gap Among Top Earners at America's Elite Universities is a first-of-its-kind study by the <u>Women's Power</u> <u>Gap Initiative</u> (WPG) at the <u>Eos Foundation</u>, in partnership with AAUW. The research examines gender, race and ethnicity among the ten most highly compensated employees at each of the nation's 130 major research institutions. **College/University**

Peggy Schmiedecke <u>AAUWPACU@gmail.com</u> College/University Liaison

National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) AAUW Pennsylvania Grant Recipients

May 25 and May 26, 2021 fully Virtual

We are pleased to announce the grant recipients for 2021 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). This annual focuses on building leadership skills and career development for college women. AAUW Pennsylvania awarded 23 grants to 17 undergraduate and 6 graduate students. We are also sending 3 AAUW-PA Board members Deb Roney, Peggy Jennings and Barbara Zaborowski who have careers in higher education.

Thank you to the NCCWSL Grant Committee members Barbara Zaborowski and Deb Roney for assisting Chair Peggy Schmiedecke. A special thank you goes to Mary Jo Buckwalter, Finance Officer for all her efforts registering each student and processing payments. If an individual member, your branch, or college/ university is sponsoring students to attend NCCWSL this year or if you would like to know more about NCCWSL opportunities, please contact Peggy Schmiedecke, C/U Liaison, at auwpacu@gmail.com.

Undergraduate Students

- Tanvi Pande, Columbia University, Electrical Engineering
- Aye Kalle, Community College of Philadelphia, Architecture & Interior Design
- Halima Ling, Dickenson College, International Relations & Chinese
- Lyvia Toth, Juniata College, International Politics with Analytics
- Elizabeth "Libby" Schreffler, Juniata College, Entrepreneurship
- Fatou Barrow, Juniata College, International Business
- Jeanette Harijanto, Juniata College, Chemistry
- Iqra Rana, Juniata College, Biology
- Zhorea McAnuff, Juniata College, B.S. Biology
- Julia McIntosh, Juniata College, Russian & International Studies
- Rebecca Koulibali, La Roche University, Information Technology
- Nicole Deneen, Penn Highlands Community College, Business Management

- Berkley Sutton, Penn Highlands Community College, Entrepreneurship
- Breiuana White, Penn State University, Biological Science and Health Professions Opt.
- Megan Hixenbaugh, Penn State University, Nursing
- Austin Legnine, Robert Morris University, Nursing
- Abelson Jordan, Gwynedd Mercy University, Biology

Graduate Students

- Hannah Nolte, Penn State University, Industrial Engineering
- Min Liew, Penn State University, Civil Engineering
- Rajal Nivargi, Penn State University, Computer Science & Engineering
- Gozde Tosun, Penn State University, Curriculum & Instruction
- Sarah Jackson, Penn State University, Applied Linguistics
- Chinonye Nwadinobi, La Roche University, Nursing

Student Impact Mini-Grant

AAUW Pennsylvania awarded grants to the following projects.

Molly Harris (she/her/hers), Juniata College '21, Philosophical History Major, AAUW Treasurer. Viewing of film, Iron Jawed Angels in honor of Women's History Month - \$350

Efstratia Pauley "Tia", University Pitt '24- main campus, Major: Biology pre-med track. Funds to translate summer program and marketing materials into Spanish for English Second Language (ESL) learners for

2021 Science Research Institute STEM program at Albright College. - \$500

Have a question?

Branch Handbook has the answer. https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/aauw-pa-branch-handbook/

Governance Resources

There are four documents that AAUW Pennsylvania and its branches are bound and guided by. Make sure you are familiar with them. (<u>https://aauw-pa.aauw.net/governance/</u>) AAUW Board of Directors Policy Book AAUW Pennsylvania Bylaws AAUW-PA Board Handbook AAUW-PA Policy Manual

SIGNIFICANT BRANCH ANNIVERSARIES July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

Congratulations!

AAUW Pennsylvania Board members are available to attend your celebration event.

Harrisburg	1921	100 years
NEMCO	November 13, 1945	75 years
North Hills Pittsburgh	November 19, 1970	50 years
Washington	December 14, 1925	95 years
Pocono Area	April 2, 1926	95 years
Bradford	April 16, 1921	100 years
State College	April 22, 1916	105 years
Indiana County	May 5, 1936	85 years
Easton	June 22, 1926	95 years

AAUW Pennsylvania Board

-	
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	aauwpa.president@gmail.com
Program VP	Lee Wolfe (Lansdale)
	aauwpapvp@gmail.com
Membership VP	Linda Tozier (North Hills Pittsburgh)
	aauwpamembership@gmail.com
Secretary	Ajla Glavasevic Laussegger
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	aauwpafinance@gmail.com
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Bylaws Chair	Susan Nenstiel (Allentown)
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College/University	Peggy Schmiedecke (North Hills Pittsburgh)
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(Central)	aauwpacentral@gmail.com
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	aauwpapp2@gmail.com
Convention	Barb Zaborowski (Johnstown)
Coordinator	aauwpaconfcoord@gmail.com
Convention	To be filled in 2021
Registrar	
Archives Chair	Linda Robbins (Allentown)
(off Board)	aauwpaarchives@gmail.com
(-))	

AAUW Pennsylvania Board Meetings

July 19 & July 25, 2020	Zoom
October 17, 2020	Harrisburg or Zoom
January 18 & January 25, 2021	Zoom
April 8 & 19, 2021	Zoom
July 13 & August 2, 2021	Zoom
October 16, 2021	Harrisburg Area



FYI is written (unless otherwise noted) and edited by Ann Pehle, President. Published after every AAUW Pennsylvania Board meeting. <u>aauwpa.president@gmail.com</u> 401-644-6488